



Alaska Federation of Natives  
Board of Directors  
Resolution 16-1

TITLE        STATE OF ALASKA FISCAL PLAN

WHEREAS    the Alaska Federation of Natives (AFN) is the largest statewide Native organization in Alaska, and its membership includes 185 federally-recognized tribes, 153 village corporations, 12 regional corporations, and 12 regional nonprofit and tribal consortiums that contract and compact to run federal and state programs; and

WHEREAS    the mission of AFN is to enhance and promote the cultural, economic, and political voice of the entire Alaska Native community; and

WHEREAS    the Alaska Native population, its tribes, for-profit and non-profit organizations and their employees, revenues and financial investments represent a significant resource, interest and force in the state of Alaska, and must be engaged and considered in all decision-making; and

WHEREAS    Alaska Natives must become fully informed about the fiscal state to understand the imminent changes in government and services to Alaskan citizens and communities; and

WHEREAS    in view of the fiscal crisis facing the state of Alaska, the Governor and the Alaska State Legislature must initiate efforts to address the fiscal uncertainty while maintaining the State's constitutional obligations and responsibilities to its citizens; and

WHEREAS    in efforts to address the State's fiscal crisis, proposals are being advanced that affect Alaska Natives and rural communities which have the potential of changes the structural delivery of services to Alaska Native and rural communities; and

WHEREAS    some proposals may be advanced under the pretext of saving money, when in actuality the savings may be nominal; but may be advanced to serve certain public interest groups; and

WHEREAS    some proposals may offer nominal savings that would be offset by the untold and unfathomable costs to Alaska Natives and rural communities; and

WHEREAS    the Alaska Federation of Natives recognizes the fiscal crisis facing the state of Alaska and through its collective Native entities will support measures to develop a sustainable budget, but will resist budget cuts that place an inequitable burden on Alaska Natives and rural communities.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Alaska Federation of Natives will initiate efforts with its member entities to educate and inform Alaska Natives and rural communities of the fiscal uncertainty and need to achieve a sustainable budget.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Alaska Federation of Natives will seek funds and support to obtain services of economists and policy analysts to support its efforts in analyzing and developing an integrated and holistic approach to a sound and sustainable fiscal future through (1) reduction of governmental expenditures; (2) support of key investments in Alaska; (3) increased revenues through broad-base tax sources; and (4) to possible use of the permanent fund while insuring continued dividends to its citizens.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Alaska Federation of Natives shall convey through this resolution and other communications to the Governor and the Alaska State Legislature that they must assume their leadership responsibilities and must act in the 2016 legislative session to reduce governmental spending, appropriately utilize the assets of the State, including permanent fund earnings, to help address the budget deficit, and to raise revenues through income and other taxes without regard to political concerns of re-election.

SUBMITTED BY: BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF AFN

BOARD ACTION: PASSED



Julie Kitka  
President